

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee
DMC Subcommittee
November 4, 2015 Meeting
Office of Grants and Research, EOPSS
3:00pm – 5:00pm**

Meeting Minutes

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approve Minutes
3. Effective Police Interactions with Youth TOT and Next Steps
4. Discussion of Disparities in School Discipline and Next Steps
5. My Brother's Keeper in Boston
6. Updates:
 - a. Legislative Testimony on Data Collection
 - b. Data – MassCourts/DataMart
 - c. DMC Assessment Study
 - d. Leadership Forum
 - e. Diversion Study
7. Work Plan Review
8. Other Business?

JJAC and Subcommittee Member Attendance: Mark Booher (Chair), Soledad Valenciano, Wendy Kaplan, Alan Klein

EOPSS Staff: Andrew Polk, Patricia Bergin, Ednei Furtado

Guests: Barbara Kaban, Lynsey Heffernan, Joshua Dankoff

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes, Work Plan, Omnibus Bill Testimony, My Brother's Keeper - Boston

After introductions the subcommittee **approved minutes** of the previous meeting.

Andrew Polk updated the subcommittee on the **Effective Police Interactions with Youth Training of Trainers** created by Connecticut police that took place during the summer. There was discussion about reaching out to the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) again to collaborate with them on promoting the training and/or exploring how to collaborate on related matters. Ednei Furtado suggested reaching out to the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association to discuss potential ways of collaborating and promoting the training.

Dr. Mark Booher led a discussion on racial and ethnic disparities in **school discipline** based on data obtained from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website. Dr. Booher provided created a handout comparing racial and ethnic disparities in school discipline broken down by charter and non-charter schools. Black charter school students are more likely to be disciplined than Black students in non-charter schools. In general, Black and Latino students in both types of schools are

more likely to be suspended than White students. The subcommittee agreed that it needs to look further at the intersection of school discipline and juvenile justice. Lynsey Heffernan suggested that the subcommittee invite a representative from DESE to have a more in-depth discussion about the data. It was suggested that the subcommittee identify the top ten cities/towns with the worst discipline rates in order to help focus future work.

Mr. Polk updated the subcommittee on the **Boston Mayor's Office My Brother's Keeper Initiative**. Gina Patterson will present at the November 6, 2015 JJAC meeting on the initiative. The subcommittee reviewed the handouts that described the initiative and its current accomplishments.

The subcommittee discussed the recent **legislative hearings** on juvenile data collection, juvenile competence to stand trial, and juvenile record expungement. The Judicial Committee is supposed to report out on the bills to the Ways and Means Committee by March 2016. Subcommittee members were not very optimistic regarding the likelihood of the bills passing.

There was discussion about court data. The **DataMart** system has failed. It is unknown how and when there will be reports related to court-level data. Thus, it is unknown as to when a DMC assessment study will be completed. Compliance with the DMC core requirement of the JJDPA could be in jeopardy.

Josh Dankoff provided an update on the work of the **Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Leadership Forum**. The forum has plans to work on the issue of police diversion of juveniles. It is mapping juvenile justice and child welfare initiatives as well as data collection gaps. It may partner with JDAI on inter-agency trainings.

The subcommittee discussed the **Diversion Study**. Mr. Polk explained the history of it and why it has not yet been released. There was an update on the diversion project being undertaken in Suffolk County. There has been a setback regarding funding of parts of the project.

There was discussion about the **J-PAST risk assessment tool**. It has started to be used but stakeholders seem to lack clarity on it. At the moment it does not seem that it is having its intended impact.

The subcommittee reviewed the status of items on the **Work Plan**.